



MI-CW4210

Michigan Crop Weather

October 18, 2010

Harvest Ahead of Normal

Six days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending October 17, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation ranged from 0.12 to 0.13 inches in the Upper Peninsula and 0.06 to 0.45 inches in the Lower Peninsula. Temperatures in the Upper Peninsula averaged 1 degree above normal, while temperatures in the Lower Peninsula ranged from 1 degree below normal to 1 degree above normal. It was fairly dry this week which was good for harvesting activities. One reporter in the west central Lower Peninsula stated, “The good harvest weather is making for a very speedy and enjoyable harvest.” There was a report from Kent County of combine fires due to the dry conditions.

Field Crops

An Indian summer gave farmers another week of favorable conditions for field crop harvest. Conditions continued to allow for a speedy and enjoyable harvest which was already well ahead of average pace. “This has been the type of harvest conditions most dream about,” said a reporter from Isabella County. Rain showers in the middle of the week did little to slow progress. **Corn** and **soybean** harvest were moving along with excellent quality being reported. Some fields in the north are being left to dry down more while harvest continued at a steady pace in southern counties. Long term storage of **sugarbeets** was expected to start this week. If temperatures stay low enough, then full harvest and permanent piling will begin. **Winter wheat** planting was beginning to wrap up. Little had emerged, but what was up was helped by rain showers during the week. “Early planted wheat after oats and alfalfa looks great. It is two inches high and thick and lush,” said a reporter from Shiawassee County.

Soil moisture for week ending 10/17/10

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	10	30	58	2
Subsoil	9	37	53	1

Crop condition for week ending 10/17/10

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All Hay	1	5	34	44	16
Corn	2	7	20	46	25
Pasture	4	21	36	31	8
Soybeans	2	7	24	46	21

Fruit

Braeburn, Winesap, and Law Rome **apples** continued to be harvested. Cortland, Jonathan, Empire, Idared, Northern Spy's, Crispin, Golden Delicious, and Fuji harvest have been completed in many blocks. Late varieties of Red Delicious continued to be harvested in the southeast. Late varieties of wine **grapes** continued to be harvested in the southwest. Harvest of fall **raspberries** continued.

Vegetables

Recent frost has ended the harvest of warm season vegetables. In the northwest, those vegetables left in the field were frozen and fields were being prepared for the winter. Crops harvested included: **cabbage**, **celery**, **pumpkins**, **gourds**, **hard squash**, **carrots**, **winter squash**, **potatoes**, **peppers**, **cool season crops** and **tomatoes** for fresh and processing. Some late season phytophthora blight was present; on hard squash in the Grand Rapids area. Additionally, growers in that area were moving onions from field crates to storage.

Crop progress for week ending 10/17/10

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All hay, third cutting	97	92	93	96
All hay, fourth cutting	65	59	53	56
Apples, harvested	91	86	59	75
Corn, harvested	60	45	3	22
Dry beans, harvested	98	95	77	90
Potatoes, harvested	84	72	78	75
Soybeans, harvested	84	66	25	53
Sugarbeets, harvested	35	33	21	19
Winter wheat, planted	89	73	50	71
Winter wheat, emerged	55	25	22	34

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 10/17/10 ¹

Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days ²			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2010	2009	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	73	36	1	2,334	1,848	1,996	0.10	0.10	3.15	25.22	21.33	2.57
Marquette	66	31		2,244	1,701		0.08	0.08	3.40	25.62		
Stephenson	68	29		2,698	2,099		0.05	0.05	2.64	24.35		
Western UP	73	24		2,344	1,791		0.12	0.13	3.25	25.60		
Cornell	66	34	1	2,567	1,943	1,756	0.14	0.14	3.64	24.24	20.37	2.57
Sault St Marie	61	35		2,351	1,726		0.15	0.15	3.68	21.94		
Eastern UP	66	27		2,304	1,713		0.13	0.13	3.01	25.18		
Beulah	68	39	0	2,795	2,142	2,288	0.18	0.18	3.38	21.44	19.67	2.75
Lake City	67	28		2,635	2,029		0.06	0.06	1.39	24.75		
Old Mission	66	35		2,686	2,028		0.01	0.01	2.30	20.86		
Pellston	62	26		2,525	1,905		0.00	0.00	2.33	23.20		
Northwest	68	26		2,608	1,977		0.06	0.07	2.08	20.30		
Alpena	64	29	-1	2,602	2,022	2,210	0.00	0.00	2.60	21.25	19.40	2.40
Houghton Lake	64	27		2,760	2,051		0.07	0.07	0.60	19.27		
Rogers City	77	32		2,432	1,977		0.00	0.00	3.19	25.43		
Northeast	77	27		2,632	2,010		0.02	0.02	2.03	22.53		
Fremont	78	31	0	3,010	2,336	2,504	0.15	0.15	1.25	16.71	19.81	2.94
Hart	75	30		2,879	2,197		0.10	0.10	0.38	19.84		
Muskegon	76	35		3,313	2,549		0.24	0.24	1.31	21.72		
West Central	78	30		3,005	2,317		0.16	0.17	1.09	19.77		
Alma	73	35	1	3,078	2,389	2,587	0.62	0.62	1.58	22.74	20.45	2.59
Big Rapids	75	30		2,897	2,206		0.46	0.46	1.46	23.38		
Central	77	30		2,983	2,291		0.45	0.45	1.28	19.93		
Bad Axe	61	37	0	2,901	2,245	2,603	0.14	0.14	2.03	22.18	18.22	2.41
Pigeon	62	36		2,870	2,213		0.07	0.07	1.87	17.40		
Saginaw	64	37		3,203	2,463		0.44	0.44	1.39	17.86		
Standish	64	32		2,831	2,192		0.11	0.11	1.57	23.66		
East Central	65	32		2,914	2,276		0.35	0.35	2.17	20.58		
Fennville	75	33	0	3,114	2,414	2,844	0.31	0.31	0.44	28.30	21.24	2.99
Grand Rapids	80	35		3,423	2,682		0.52	0.52	1.25	25.40		
Holland	73	36		3,395	2,780		0.16	0.16	1.45	35.48		
South Bend, IN	81	35		3,512	2,830		0.15	0.15	0.74	22.40		
Watervliet	79	34		3,316	2,614		0.29	0.30	0.87	22.47		
Southwest	81	32		3,297	2,626		0.32	0.33	1.07	24.76		
Belding	81	32	1	3,020	2,352	2,792	0.49	0.50	1.48	20.25	20.55	2.41
Coldwater	83	32		3,353	2,711		0.17	0.24	0.26	18.38		
Lansing	77	34		3,299	2,533		0.74	0.74	1.61	19.89		
South Central	83	32		3,172	2,501		0.45	0.46	1.22	22.54		
Detroit	81	40	1	3,558	2,913	2,790	0.42	0.42	2.01	23.24	19.44	2.33
Flint	74	33		3,263	2,490		0.62	0.62	2.27	18.36		
Romeo	66	39		3,140	2,495		0.58	0.59	3.15	18.19		
Tipton	80	38		3,224	2,593		0.25	0.25	1.08	24.54		
Toledo, OH	80	36		3,535	2,906		0.40	0.40	1.39	23.78		
Southeast	83	29		3,271	2,673		0.38	0.38	1.67	21.70		

¹ Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

² Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.